

THE CURRENT.

W.M. H. MULLANE

Official Paper of Eddy County.

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There seems to be a great amount of ignorance on the meaning of direct tax. A direct tax is that imposed by counties and states upon every piece of personal and real property, while what is known as indirect tax is revenue derived from taxing spirits, tobacco, cigars and duties on imports and exports. The direct tax championed by the democratic party for years has nothing in common with natural taxation or the tax on ground value as advocated by Henry George. While the CURRENT holds that there is no just taxation except the one and only ground value tax, it will champion any measure which tends to destroy so iniquitous a system as the tariff for revenue tax. We cannot and will not concede that wrong is right. While the ground value tax is so little understood it is well we should at least understand the wrongs we are resting under. The tariff tax, or tariff for revenue taxes only those who buy goods. A landlord might live in England and never pay a cent of the expenses of government here, though owning a thousand farms and a million hives, the homes of the people who, in addition to paying the landlord's rent, pay the expenses of conducting the government of the United States or six hundred of millions dollars annually by a tariff duty on what they use. The ground value tax would place the burden where it belongs, on the ground value. While it would protect the investment in houses or other improvements, it would tax the value made greater each year by increase of population. All know the value of choice locations made valuable by population is the proper thing to tax and that the ground alone, of all property is not creative by man and that payment for its use and increase of value belongs to the community, because the effects of peopling of any tract-means to increase its value. To divest it of people means to render its value worthless or almost so and therefore taxless because of no people to govern. However free and unrestricted trade, with only such duties as are imposed for revenue with the idea of protection or in other words robbery of the many for the benefit of the few eliminated entirely from the politics of this country, would soon cause us to see the beauties of natural taxation.

The salaries of the various county officials soon to be chosen by the people are not only sufficient to cover the value of all services rendered, but in the matter of county judge, superintendent of schools and treasurer the amounts received for services rendered are far in excess of the real value of the work. The county judge's salary is \$300 per annum, paid out of the current funds of the county quarterly or \$75.00 every three months. For this \$25.00 per month the county receives probably three days time of the person elected judge in each quarter. The salary could be made \$500 per annum and the county receive as competent service. In the matter of school superintendent the salary is \$600 per annum, in this office the superintendent probably earns more of the salary than does his near neighbor, the judge. The superintendent is supposed to form school districts, describe their boundaries, keep maps of same, make annual reports to the territorial superintendent of amount of money raised by taxes and paid to teachers, visit each school in the county at least once a year, meet in conjunction with two competent persons as a board of examiners, examine all applicants to teach and grant certificates. These duties in a sparsely settled county occupy probably one-fourth of one competent person's time, so the salary, though not large, is ample and might possibly be cut in two where a county is in debt like Eddy county is at present. The treasurer receives also \$600 per annum, paid quarterly. The treasurer's duties are not burdensome and the work is done at times when it does not interfere with other business. In some counties the use of idle funds in the hands of the treasurer pays a handsome profit. While it may be held that reliable men are scarce, the salary never seemed to make them more reliable, therefore the county if run by private individuals would not pay more than \$125 per annum for the service. The county clerk's office is paid \$100 per annum and fees, amounting in this county to from \$1,000 to \$2,000 per year. The salary part might be cut off and fully as competent help secured for the fees. The assessor's office pays about \$800 per year, and this for about five months work. This is entirely a fee office. While the fees might be reduced one-third and Eddy county get as good services, it is probable the territory will continue to

carry on its statutes the same old laws. The sheriff's office has always paid from \$2,000 to \$10,000 per year, but of late, with the legislature tinkering with the fees and the county board cutting bills, the sheriff has not been highly paid. The county commissioners receive \$50.00 per quarter for about four days work each three months of the year. Were it not for the kicks and curses received it would be a well paid office, but on account of the commissioners standing between treasury looters and the treasury and saving thousands of dollars annually it is thoroughly competent, the pay is of small moment to the tax payers. While we have excellent officials, all will agree that the salaries are in excess of what would be paid if the work was in the hands of private individuals. It is therefore but little wonder that each second year witnesses a scramble for the places soon to be vacated by those who have held the snap for their respective terms. Were not the salaries considerable in excess of the labor value there would be less of the scramble for the spoils.

If "government of the people, by the people, and for the people shall not perish from earth," the principles of Jefferson must be asserted by a party that shall honestly trust them, and that will move forward to the settlement of the tariff question, and the currency question and the land question, and the liquor question and the wage question, and the poverty question, and any other question that may come up on basis of equal rights to all and special privileges to none. This party must come, if not this year, then later. If not under the democratic name, then under some other name and when it comes, it will come with power.

It is time to raise the democratic standard for the only practicable free trade tariff at all. This will make the democratic party a single tax party. The moment the democratic party frankly adopts this and fearlessly declares it, it will have a principle and a future.

A horse without sound feet is useless. The utility of thousands of horses is impaired or destroyed by bad shoeing. The knife should be used very sparingly, if at all, on the sole and frog of a healthy hoof. The frog should be left, if possible, so as to touch the ground with the shoe on. The bars and heel should not be weakened and opened by the knife. Shoes tight horses should be light and open at the heel, and the inner heel of the shoe should generally be thicker than the outer heel, as the former is weaker and usually a little further off the ground.

Hotel Hagerman Arrivals.

FRIDAY: J. B. Craddock, Ft. Worth; J. D. Soper, Abilene; C. L. Ballard, C. Perry and daughter, C. E. Pratt, G. A. Richardson, Geo. Curry, Roswell.

MONDAY: C. C. Hall and wife, Albuquerque; Julius Eisenman, Boston.

TUESDAY: C. A. Keith, Roswell; O. T. Winerstedt, Chicago; Selva R. Hobie, Lake Van, N. M.

WEDNESDAY: A. C. Heitzell, Denver; Otto Cohn, St. Louis; F. M. Walke, Fremont, Neb.

Dee Webb, dry goods clerk in the Joyce, Print & Co. establishment at Roswell, passed through town yesterday, returning home from a trip to El Paso.

Rev. H. Kempker visited Pecos Tuesday, where he witnessed the sacrament of confirmation administered to 175 children and grown people by the bishop of San Antonio. Rev. Kempker says the town was filled with people and that the church was crowded.

Dr. Whicher, of Brooklyn, who for the past few weeks has been associated with Dr. Kinsinger, has decided to remain permanently and will attend patients in any part of the country. He will be found at the office of Dr. Kinsinger, with whom he has become associated. Dr. Whicher has had several years practice in some of the best hospitals in Brooklyn and is therefore a valuable acquisition to Eddy county.

The Worth League of the M. E. church south met in business session Monday evening, and elected the following officers: Miss Eula Laverty, president; Mr. Harvey, 1st vice-president; Miss Tena Neymeyer, 2nd vice-president; Miss Cora Neil 3rd vice-president; Bert McCallum, secretary; Miss Berta Laverty, treasurer; Mrs. Gilchrist, organist. Several new members were admitted and other important business transacted. The new officers will be regularly installed and new members officially received at the devotional meeting of the League next Sunday afternoon at three o'clock.

F. M. Wallace, of Fremont, Neb., inventor of a special beet planter and cultivator combined, is in town. Tracy & McEwan will handle the goods. Mr. Wallace says beet rows are generally planted 18, 20 and 22 inches apart in Nebraska. His cultivator cleans up two rows, the horses walking with two rows between them, the cultivator working to the middle of the side rows and taking all the center rows.

Next Sabbath being the fifth Sabbath of this month, Rev. Brantley will preach in the fire department rooms both morning and evening. Every one cordially invited to attend these services.

The Ladies Aid Society of the M. E. church gave an ice cream social at Mrs. Robb's Tuesday evening, which was largely attended. In the evening a large crowd gathered at the church and were transferred to the social by E. W. McAllum with his float and four horses. The ride was enjoyed by all and judging from the manner in which the ice cream and cake disappeared soon after the arrival of the party, the eatables were enjoyed also. The party returned to town about half past ten o'clock.

Nearly every house in Eddy is occupied, but there is just one more residence to rent. Call at this office now.

OATS AND APPLES AGAIN.

I have succeeded in buying another fresh lot of Breakfast Oats at a very low figure, and will give the public the benefit, beginning next Monday, 5 P.M. Breakfast Oats, - 25
3 lbs. Evap. apples, - 25
3 Cans N.H. Oysters, - 25
3 lbs. Best Java & Mocha coffee, - 1.00
5 pks. Faultless starch, - 25
This list of bargains for one week only. See new list next week, for each B. T. KELTON,
Opposite Hotel Hagerman.

For every quarter in a man's pocket there are a dozen uses; and to use each one in such a way as to derive the greatest benefit is a question every one must solve for himself. We believe however that no better use could be made of one of these quarters than that to exchange it for a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic Oil and Diarrhoea Remedy, a medicine that every family should be provided with. For sale by Eddy Drug Co.

Popular With the Republicans.

The old reliable Texas & Pacific railway will be the popular route for the Great National Republican Convention at St. Louis June 10th. No effort will be spared to provide for the comfort of all who use this line. Special trains will run with elegant day coaches and chair cars and Pullman sleepers, and you will be wise to send in your name for the necessary accommodations, as the attendant promises to be the largest for any convention yet held. Tickets will be sold via the Texas & Pacific railway at rate of one lowest limited first-class fare for the round trip on June 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, good for return until June 21, 1890.

For tickets, sleeping car accommodations or any other information call on nearest Texas & Pacific agent or GASTON MESTLER, G. P. & T. A., Dallas, Texas.

HOW TO TREAT A WIFE.

From Pacific Health Journal.

First get a wife; second, be patient. You may have great trials and perplexities in your business, but do not therefore carry to your home a cloudy or contracted brow. Your wife may have trials, which, though of less magnitude, may be hard for her to bear. A kind word, a tender look, will do wonders in chasing away from her brow all clouds of gloom. To this we would add always keep a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy in the house. It is the best and is sure to be needed sooner or later. Your wife will then know that you care for her and wish to protect her health. For sale by Eddy Drug Co.

Do You Want Proper Help?

By addressing this office farmers in need of a foreman or superintendent will be put in communication with an experienced man who can give good recommendations.

ONLY \$15.00

The Texas & Pacific Railway Company will this year furnish to regular ordained clergymen, duly credited missionaries or others solely engaged in ministerial duties, one thousand mile tickets good on all portions of that system.

Applications for these tickets should be made to the nearest ticket agent of the Texas & Pacific Railway, or address,

GASTON MESTLER,
Gen'l Pass. & Trk. Agent,
Dallas, Texas.

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NOTICE OF SUIT.

Territory of New Mexico; County of Eddy.

Fifth Judicial District Court within and for Eddy county.

Mary A. Ashby, Complainant, for damages and costs, against Ernest H. Ashby, defendant, for damages and costs.

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